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To: Garyg Miller/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: "Luda Voskov" <LVOSKOV@tceq.state.tx.us>  
Date: 08/16/2010 03:55 PM  
Subject: Gulfco BERA Field Update

Hi Gary –

On Friday morning, I left you a voice mail regarding our potential inability to collect pore water samples at all of the proposed BERA wetland sediment sample locations due to current Site conditions. As I indicated in my voice mail, of the nine wetland sediment sample locations, three are anticipated to yield pore water, three are not expected to yield pore water, and three are not certain as to whether they will yield pore water. Benchmark (the sampling crew) visited each of the wetland sediment sample stations last Thursday and classified the stations as listed below. These conditions were also observed by the EA representative last Friday.

1. Sediment on the surface was saturated – It is very likely we can collect a pore water sample from these sample locations: EWSED01, EWSED02, and EWSED08.
2. Sediment was moist on the surface but not saturated – It might be possible to collect a pore water sample from these sample locations: EWSED04, EWSED06, and EWSED07.
3. Sediment was dry on the surface – there would be no chance of collecting a pore water sample with conditions like last Thursday from these sample locations: EWSED03, EWSED05, and EWSED09.

None of the wetland sediment sample locations had any overlying water. Most of the sediments are very similar. There is a thin layer of organic material and silt over clay. Only one of the three wetland surface water locations, EWSW01 (north of the north area), had surface water present.

Per our previous discussions, I wanted to provide this information to you right away. Sampling for the BERA is currently scheduled to be completed by August 30. If site conditions change during this time period (e.g., due to a significant rain event) we will re-evaluate whether pore water can be collected from EWSED03, EWSED05, and EWSED09, and whether surface water is present at the locations EWSW02 and EWSW03 such that those locations can be sampled. Please let me know if you have any questions/comments or would like additional details.

Thanks.

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